

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 07326 231628Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /045 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7361
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AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7326

FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: US;GR; OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CHRISTOPHER VISIT TO ATHENS

REF: STATE 212601

1. A VISIT BY YOU TO ATHENS IN THE LATTER HALF OF
OCTOBER WOULD BE MOST WELCOME TO THE GOG. THE
PREFERRED DATES HERE WOULD BE BETWEEN OCTOBER 18 AND
24 WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER RALLIS IS CERTAIN TO BE
IN ATHENS AND THERE IS EVERY LIKELIHOOD OF A MEETING
WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS.

2. I DISCUSSED A POSSIBLE VISIT LAST EVENING WITH
THE FOREIGN MINISTER IN TERMS OF THE REFTEL. RALLIS
WAS IMMEDIATELY RECEPTIVE AND BEGAN CASTING ABOUT
FOR MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATES AS WELL AS POSSIBLE
AGENDA MATTERS. ON THE LATTER, HE SAID HE HOPED
WE COULD ACHIEVE SOME THINGS FROM YOUR VISIT WHICH
WOULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE
HERE AND SAID HE WOULD ASK MINISTER OF COORDINATION
MITSOTAKIS TO IDENTIFY POSSIBILITIES IN THE AREAS OF
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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. I SAID THIS WOULD BE VERY
MUCH IN LINE WITH OUR OWN INCLINATION AND PURPOSE AND
MENTIONED A POSSIBILITY FOR EXPANDING OUR PRESENT
EXCHANGES UNDER THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE GOVERNMENT'S EARLIER RESERVATION
ABOUT A POSSIBLE VISIT IN SEPTEMBER, RALLIS EXPLAINED

THAT A VISIT ON THE HEELS OF REPEAL OF THE EMBARGO
RISKED BEING PUBLICLY INTERPRETED AS A U.S. EFFORT
TO PRESSURE GREECE TO DO OUR BIDDING ON CYPRUS. THIS
WOULD UNFORTUNATELY PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF THE
POLITICAL OPPOSITION. THE TIMING WE WERE NOW PROPOSING
WAS BETTER FOR THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID.

4. AT MY MENTION OF GREEK REINTEGRATION INTO NATO
AS A POSSIBLE SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION, RALLIS REMARKED
THAT HE HOPED THE ISSUE WOULD BE RESOLVED BY THEN.
LET'S ALL HOPE IT IS.

5. THE REMAINDER OF OUR DISCUSSION CONCERNED MORE
ABOUT FUTURE DIPLOMATIC STEPS ON CYPRUS
AND THE KARAMANLIS/KYPRIANOU CONVERSATIONS IN
ATHENS WHICH WE ARE REPORTING BY SEPTTEL.

6. WHEN I KNOW WHETHER THIS RANGE OF DATES IS
CONVENIENT TO YOU WE WILL PROCEED WITH SUGGESTIONS
FOR A MUTUALLY AGREED AGENDA FOR THE VISIT.
MCCLOSKEY

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